

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently amended) A method for imaging of lymphatic vasculature in tissue, comprising the step of contacting the tissue with ~~an antibody~~ a monoclonal antibody selected from the group consisting of 2F8 (ATCC No. PTA-3653), 4A5 (ATCC No. HB-12698), 4E10 (ATCC No. PTA-3652), and 5F12 (ATCC No. PTA-3651), or a F(ab')₂, F(ab'), F(ab) fragment or chimeric antibody thereof which interferes with binding of VEGF-D to a VEGF receptor-3, and detecting the occurrence of binding of said antibody.

47. (cancelled)

48. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 46, wherein the antibody is labeled covalently or noncovalently with a detectable label.

49. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 48, wherein the detectable label is selected from the group consisting of supermagnetic agent, a paramagnetic agent, an electron dense agent, an ecogenic agent, and a radioactive agent.

50. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 49, wherein the detectable label is selected from the group consisting of ¹²⁵I, ³²P, an enzymatic label, and a fluorimetric labels.

51. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 50, wherein the enzymatic label is horseradish peroxidase.

52. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 50, wherein the fluorimetric label is fluorescein-5-isothiocyanate (FITC).

53-64. (Canceled)